

(e) States may accelerate conversion on less than a county basis for purposes of completing a biological or enforcement/management unit; however, the minimum conversion schedule [set out in the June, 1986, Final Supplemental Environmental Statement on the use of lead shot for hunting migratory birds in the United States, Appendix N] will be adhered to.

(f) Where a portion, but not all, of a county is included in nontoxic shot zones for the 1986–87 or later waterfowl hunting season, the remainder of the county will convert in the year that it would otherwise be converted on the basis of its total county waterfowl harvest density.

(g) When a county is converted to nontoxic shot status under this paragraph, it will be added to the list of nontoxic shot zones contained in §20.108 and all the prohibitions of §20.21(j) will apply.

Subpart N—Special Procedures for Issuance of Annual Hunting Regulations

SOURCE: 46 FR 62079, Dec. 22, 1981, unless otherwise noted.

§20.151 Purpose and scope.

The rules of this subpart N apply to the issuance of the annual regulations establishing seasons, bag limits, and other requirements for the seasonal hunting of migratory birds. The rules of this subpart N do not apply to the issuance of regulations under part 21 of this title or under subparts A through J and L through M of this part 20.

§20.152 Definitions.

As used in this subpart N:

(a) *Flyway Council* means the Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, or Pacific Flyway Council;

(b) *Regulations Committee* means the Migratory Bird Regulations Committee of the Fish and Wildlife Service; and

(c) *Significant*, as used in reference to a communication or other form of information or data, means related to the merits of the regulation and received, utilized, or transmitted by an official of the Department who is or may reasonably be expected to be in-

involved in the decisional process on the regulation.

§20.153 Regulations committee.

(a) *Notice of meetings.* Notice of each meeting of the Regulations Committee to be attended by any person outside the Department will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least two weeks before the meeting. The notice will state the time, place, and general subject(s) of the meeting, as well as the extent of public involvement.

(b) *Public observation and written comment.* Each meeting of the Regulations Committee for which notice is published pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section will be open to the public for observation and the submission of written comments.

(c) *Public participation.* Except for the mid-summer meetings held in Washington, DC, in conjunction with the public hearing on waterfowl and other late season frameworks, the public may participate in any meeting of the Regulations Committee for which notice is published pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section through the submission of oral statements that comply with the rules stated in the notice.

(d) *Minutes of meetings.* Minutes will be made of each meeting of the Regulations Committee for which notice is published pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section.

§20.154 Flyway Councils.

(a) *Notice of meetings.* Notice of each meeting of a Flyway Council to be attended by any official of the Department will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least two weeks before the meeting or as soon as practicable after the Department learns of the meeting. The notice will state the time, place, and general subject(s) of the meeting.

(b) [Reserved]

§20.155 Public file.

(a) *Establishment.* A public file will be established for each rulemaking to which this subpart N is applicable.

(b) *Contents.* Except for information exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552, a public file established pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section will contain: